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HOUSE BILL 1163

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Sullivan, Morris, Schual-Berke, Chase, Upthegrove, Hasegawa, Wallace, Appleton, Ormsby, Anderson, Moeller and Santos

Read first time 01/11/2007. Referred to Committee on Technology, Energy & Communications.

1            AN ACT Relating to the use of the life sciences discovery fund to  
2 support research involving human stem cells; amending RCW 43.350.005;  
3 and adding a new section to chapter 43.350 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.350.005 and 2005 c 424 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            The legislature declares that promoting the health of state  
8 residents is a fundamental purpose of state government. The  
9 legislature declares it to be a clear public purpose and governmental  
10 function to promote life sciences research to foster a preventive and  
11 predictive vision of the next generation of health-related innovations,  
12 to enhance the competitive position of Washington state in this vital  
13 sector of the economy, and to improve the quality and delivery of  
14 health care for the people of Washington. The legislature finds that  
15 public support for and promotion of life sciences research will benefit  
16 the state and its residents through improved health status and health  
17 outcomes, economic development, and contributions to scientific  
18 knowledge, and such research will lead to breakthroughs and  
19 improvements that might not otherwise be discovered due to lack of

1 existing market incentives, especially in the area of regenerative  
2 medicine. The legislature finds that in order to develop a vibrant  
3 life sciences research environment in Washington and to achieve the  
4 greatest benefits from investments in life sciences research, there  
5 must be a balanced investment in a broad range of research fields,  
6 including human adult stem cells, human embryonic germ cells, and human  
7 embryonic stem cells. The legislature finds that public support for  
8 and promotion of life sciences research has the potential to provide  
9 cures or new treatments for many debilitating diseases that cost the  
10 state millions of dollars each year. It is appropriate and consistent  
11 with the intent of the master settlement agreement between the state  
12 and tobacco product manufacturers to invest a portion of the revenues  
13 derived therefrom by the state in life sciences research, to leverage  
14 the revenues with other funds, and to encourage cooperation and  
15 innovation among public and private institutions involved in life  
16 sciences research. The purpose of this chapter is to establish a life  
17 sciences discovery fund authority, to grant that authority the power to  
18 contract with the state to receive revenues under the master settlement  
19 agreement, and to contract with other entities to receive other funds,  
20 and to disburse those funds consistent with the purpose of this  
21 chapter. The life sciences discovery fund is intended to promote the  
22 best available research in life sciences disciplines through diverse  
23 Washington institutions and to build upon existing strengths in the  
24 area of biosciences and biomanufacturing in order to spread the  
25 economic benefits across the state. The life sciences discovery fund  
26 is also intended to foster improved health care outcomes and improved  
27 agricultural production research across this state and the world. The  
28 research investments of the life sciences discovery fund are intended  
29 to further the goals of the "Bio 21" report and to support future  
30 statewide, comprehensive strategies to lead the nation in life  
31 sciences-related research and employment.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.350 RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 (1) The human stem cell research advisory committee is created as  
35 a standing committee of the authority. The human stem cell research  
36 advisory committee consists of nine members appointed by the governor.  
37 The governor shall consider those candidates as may be recommended for

1 appointment by the University of Washington and the biomedical  
2 community. The human stem cell research advisory committee consists of  
3 the following members:

4 (a) Five scientists with experience in biomedical research in the  
5 field of cell differentiation, nuclear reprogramming, tissue formation  
6 and regeneration, stem cell biology, developmental biology,  
7 regenerative medicine, or related fields;

8 (b) Two medical ethicists;

9 (c) One person with a background in legal issues related to human  
10 embryonic stem cell research, in vitro fertilization, or family law, as  
11 it applies to the donation of blastocysts and oocytes; and

12 (d) One member of the public.

13 (2) The human stem cell research advisory committee shall develop  
14 scientific, ethical, and legal guidelines for research involving the  
15 derivation or use of human adult stem cells, human embryonic germ  
16 cells, and human embryonic stem cells in Washington. The guidelines  
17 must be submitted to the authority by July 1, 2008. The guidelines  
18 must include recommendations for the authority to use when selecting  
19 projects involving the derivation of human embryonic stem cells, by any  
20 method, including somatic cell nuclear transfer. The recommendations  
21 must inform the authority of specific scientific, ethical, and legal  
22 considerations to examine in its selection of research projects  
23 involving human stem cells. The authority shall use the scientific  
24 recommendations in the guidelines to assist the authority in  
25 determining which human stem cell research projects meet the goals of  
26 the funding criteria established in RCW 43.350.030. After adoption of  
27 the initial guidelines, the human stem cell research advisory committee  
28 may revise the guidelines, issue advisory opinions, or provide other  
29 technical assistance, at the request of the authority, to account for  
30 new developments in research and medicine. The authority may request  
31 that the human stem cell research advisory committee review specific  
32 research proposals that include the use of human stem cells. Such a  
33 review by the human stem cell research advisory committee must be  
34 submitted to the authority, which shall make all final determinations  
35 on project approval and funding.

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